

Remarks:

This amendment is submitted in an earnest effort to advance this case to issue without delay.

The specification has been amended to eliminate some minor obvious errors. No new matter whatsoever has been added.

The frame is described in the original disclosure at several locations as annular and having four side elements. Thus the frame is inherently "annular." Hence this term has been added to the disclosure and can be used in the claims.

The claims have been amended to define the invention with greater particularity over the art, in particular over US 4,122,006 of Christensen that shows beater elements 62 hanging from lines 64 at the sides of screens 60.

More particularly the claims now clearly state that the elements 5 according to the invention on which the beaters 7 are mounted are fixed at opposite edges of the screen frame (see original disclosure page 3, lines 5 and 6). In addition the claim now describes how the beaters are "underneath" the screen as clearly shown in FIGS. 1 to 4.

The advantage of this system is that a simple periodic tensioning of the elements 5 is enough to vertically reciprocate the beaters 7 and actually pound on the screens 2 or 8 generally

centrally. The result is easily effected and highly effective clearing action.

In Christensen the beaters 62 are at an end of the support lines, so they do not have ends at "opposite edges" of the screen frames. Neither are the beaters 62 underneath the screens 60; instead they are underneath the frame 72 and probably take some oscillatory action of this entire frame 72 to get them to strike the screens 60. This is a structurally different system so a §102 rejection is impossible. Furthermore there is nothing to suggest mounting the beaters 62 between the ends of the lines 64 and then to secure the lines 64 to opposite edges of the screen frames 72, so that a §103 rejection on Christensen is also impossible.

For these reasons all the claims in the case are in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

If only minor problems that could be corrected by means of a telephone conference stand in the way of allowance of this

case, the examiner is invited to call the undersigned to make the necessary corrections.

Respectfully submitted,  
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05 December 2007  
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Enclosure:                      Corrected version  
                                    Substitute Specification